



Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

Updated August 2021

Purpose

The State Board of Health (board) is considering a new drinking water standard for PFAS in response to a petition for rulemaking. The board is revising the Group A rule (chapter 246-290 WAC) to address concerns about PFAS, contaminants that do not have a maximum contaminant level (MCL). The board and the Department of Health (DOH) are concerned because almost a dozen Group A public water systems and over 200 private wells¹ in five areas of the state are known to have PFAS contamination in their groundwater supplies above EPA and other state's health advisory levels.

Recent Issues, Activities, and Next Steps

DOH released draft rule language for an informal public comment period that began in December 2019 and was extended through January 31, 2020, at the request of stakeholders. During this time DOH held three workshops around the state to allow for information sharing and discussion about the draft rule with interested parties and stakeholders.

After making changes to the draft in response to comments we'd received, DOH held an additional informal comment period. We updated the draft rule language in response to these comments. We then updated the [board](#) at its virtual meeting on August 12, 2020, and briefed the board at their June 9, 2021, meeting. The formal public comment period begins August 4, 2021.

Completed Rulemaking Activity	Date
SBOH Decision to Consider Rulemaking	October 2017
File CR-101: WSR 18-01-080	December 2017
Update board	June 2018
Update board	August 2018
Draft Rule Language	September 2018 - June 2019
Finalize Draft Rule Language	September 2019
Update board	November 2019
1 st Stakeholder Informal Comment Period w/workshops in Spokane, Mount Vernon, and Tacoma	December 2019 – January 31, 2020
<i>Delayed due to COVID-19 emergency response impacts to DOH staffing and resource capacity</i>	<i>March 13, 2020</i>
Update board	August 2020
2 nd Stakeholder Informal Comment Period	September 1 – 30, 2020
board Briefing	June 9, 2021

¹ Private wells and Group B water systems are not regulated under chapter 246-290 WAC.

Future Rulemaking Activities	Date
File CR-102: Begin formal Public Comment Period on proposed rule	August 4, 2021
End of Public Comment Period on proposed rule	September 3, 2021
Public Hearing on proposed rule at board meeting (last opportunity to provide public comments)	October 13, 2021
File CR-103: Final Rulemaking Order	Late Fall/ Early Winter 2021
Rule Effective	31 days after filing

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For more information

Visit our PFAS Webpage: doh.wa.gov/CommunityandEnvironment/Contaminants/PFAS or the Office of Drinking Water's rulemaking webpage doh.wa.gov/ODWRulemaking.



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